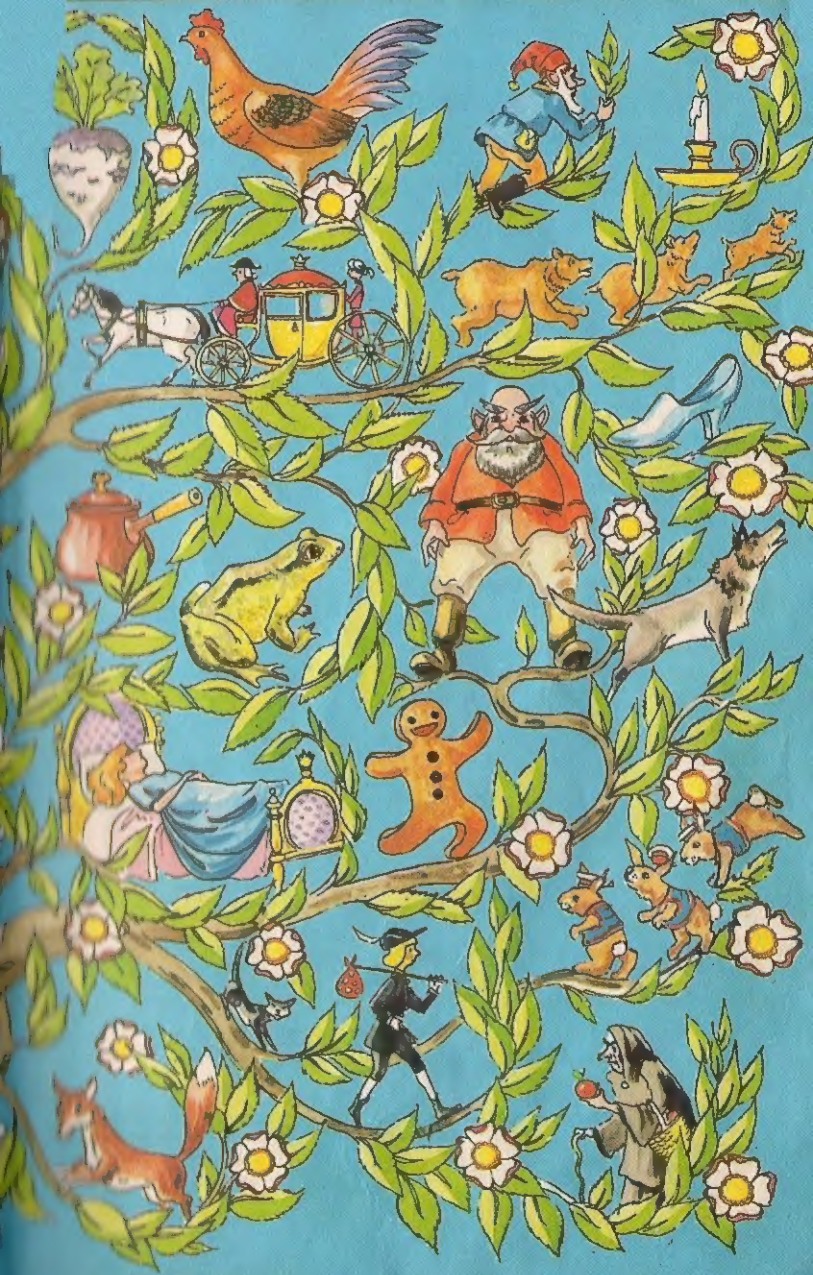


WELL LOVED  
TALES

# The Three Billy Goats Gruff







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WELL LOVED TALES

# The Three Billy Goats Gruff



retold by VERA SOUTHGATE MA BCom

illustrated by CHRIS RUSSELL

Ladybird Books

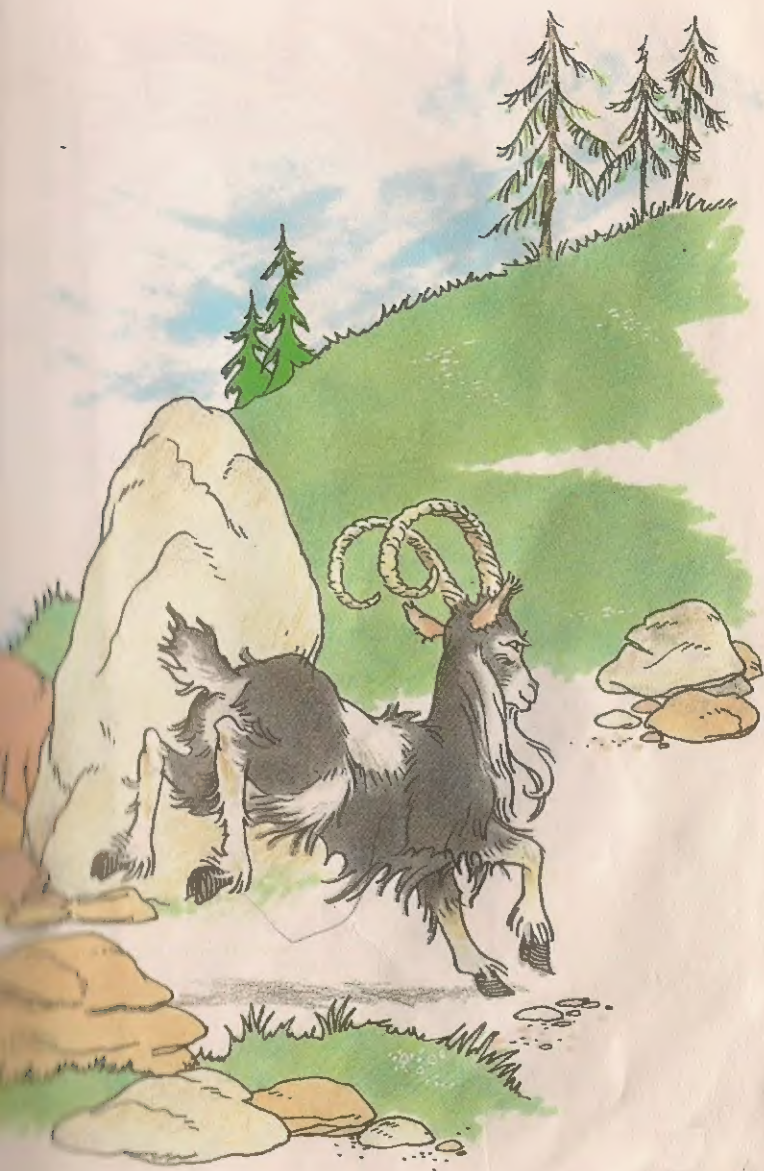


Once upon a time there were three  
billy goats called Gruff.



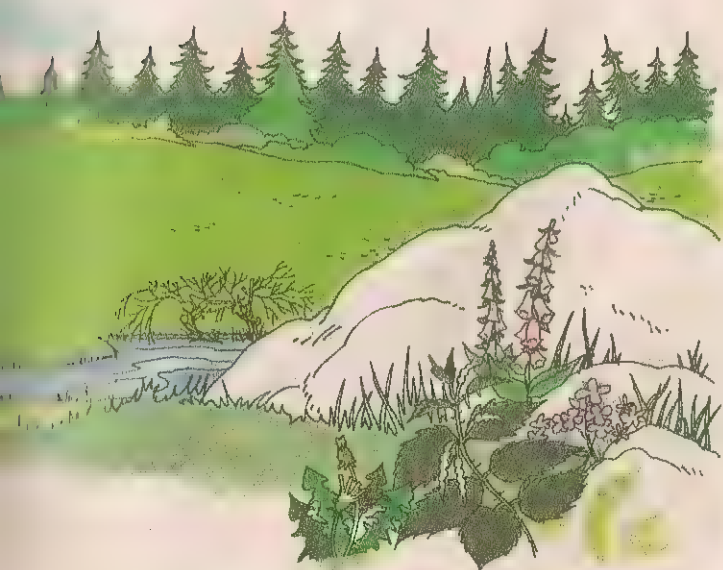
One fine day, the three billy goats  
Gruff set off up the hillside. They  
were going to look for some sweet  
grass to eat so that they could grow  
fat.



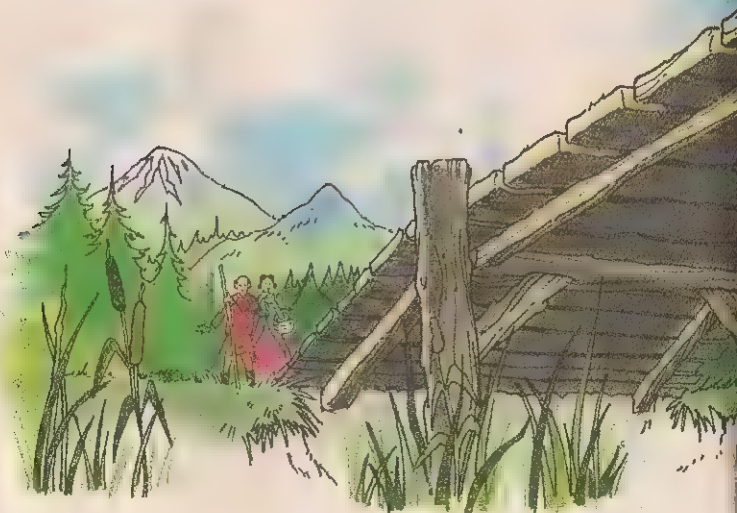




On the way up the hillside, the three billy goats Gruff came to a river. On the other side of the river was a beautiful meadow. In the meadow was the finest grass they had ever seen.

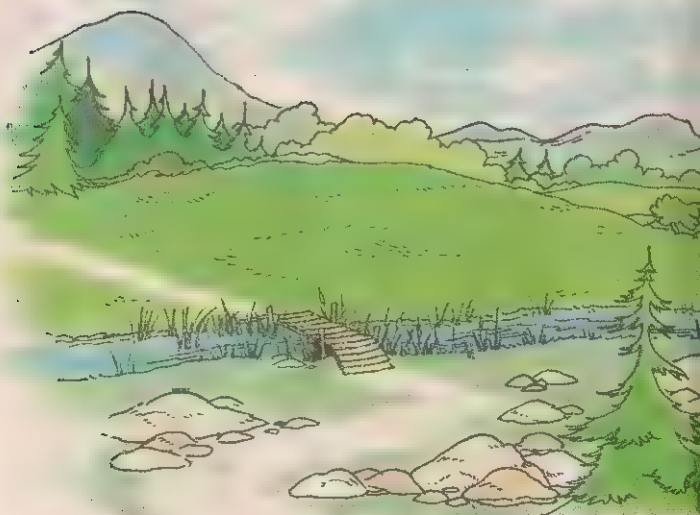


There was a wooden bridge over the river. Under the bridge there lived an ugly troll. People were afraid to cross the bridge because of the troll. Every time ne heard footsteps on the bridge, he popped out and gobbled up the person who was trying to cross.





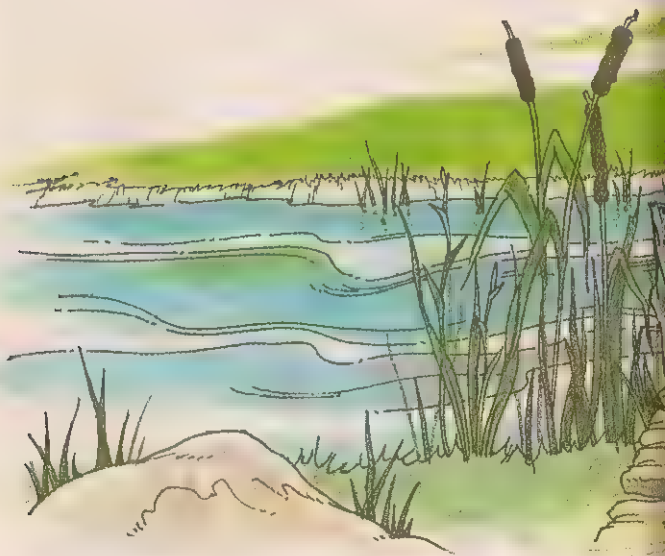
The three billy goats Gruff were very frightened at the thought of the troll. Yet they longed to eat the sweet grass in the meadow, on the other side of the river.





After a while, the youngest billy goat Gruff said that he would be the first to try to cross the bridge.

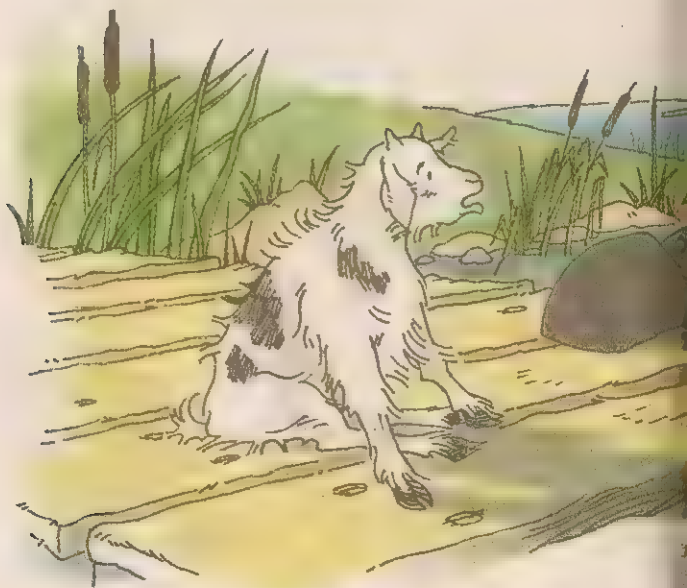
Trip, trap, trip, trap, went the hooves of the youngest billy goat Gruff on the wooden bridge.





Out popped the troll's ugly head.  
He was so ugly that the youngest  
billy goat Gruff nearly fell down  
with fright.

“Who’s that trip-trapping over my  
bridge?” roared the troll.

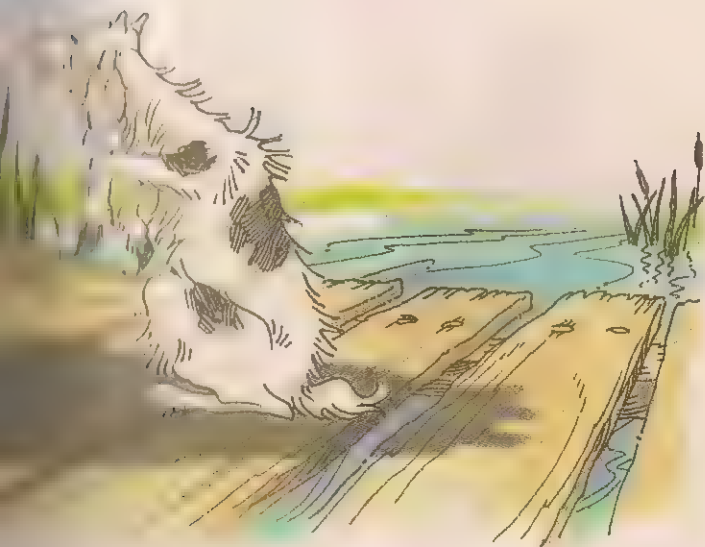






The youngest billy goat Gruff spoke in a tiny voice. "It's only me, the littlest billy goat Gruff," he said. "I'm going to the meadow to make myself fat."

"Then I'm coming to gobble you up," roared the troll.



“Oh! No! Please don’t gobble me up,” said the youngest billy goat Gruff, in a tiny voice. “I’m far too little and not at all fat. Wait until the second billy goat Gruff comes



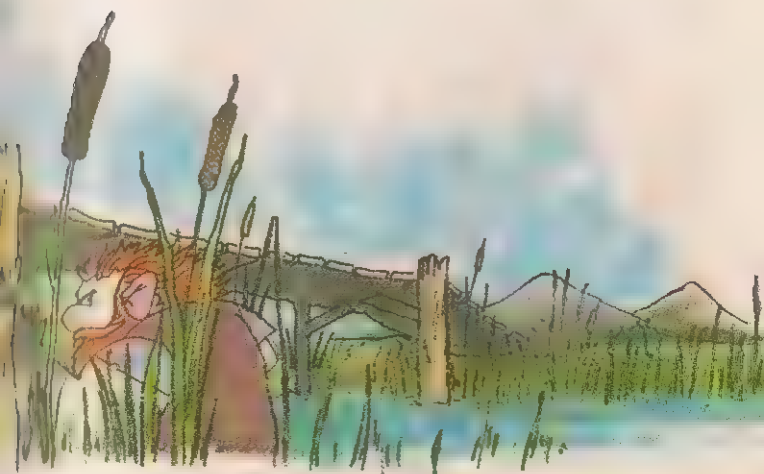
along. He's much fatter than I am."





“Very well,” said the troll. “Be off with you! I’ll wait until the second billy goat Gruff comes along.”

So the youngest billy goat Gruff crossed the bridge and skipped off into the meadow to eat the sweet grass.

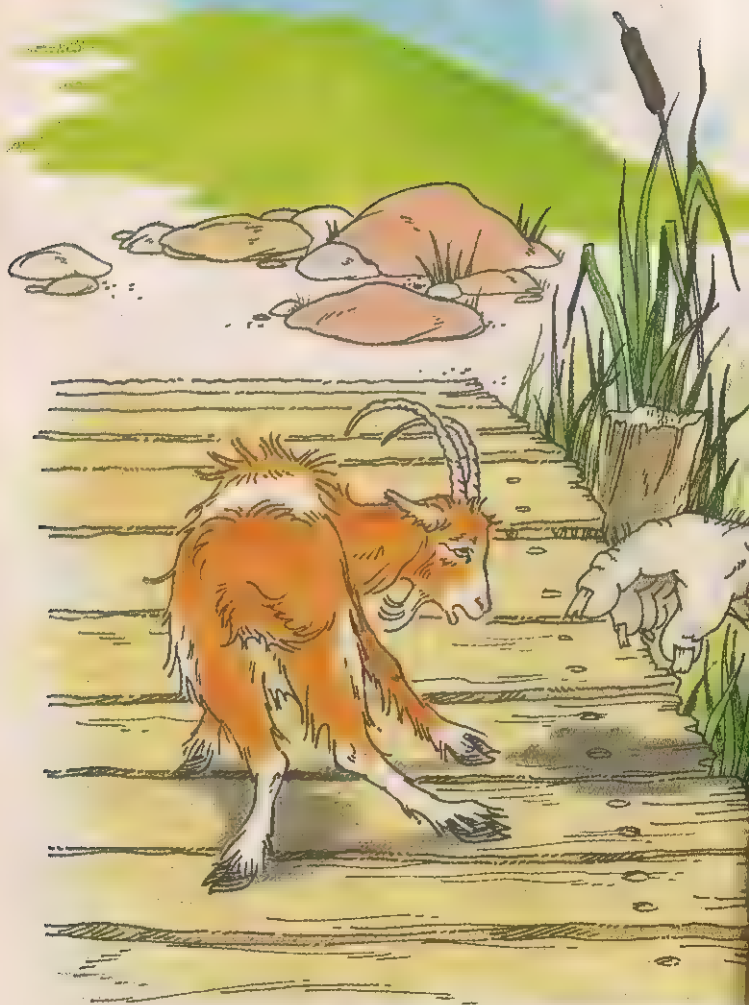


Then the second billy goat Gruff  
said that he would try to cross the  
bridge.

Trip, trap, trip, trap, went the  
hooves of the second billy goat  
Gruff on the wooden bridge.







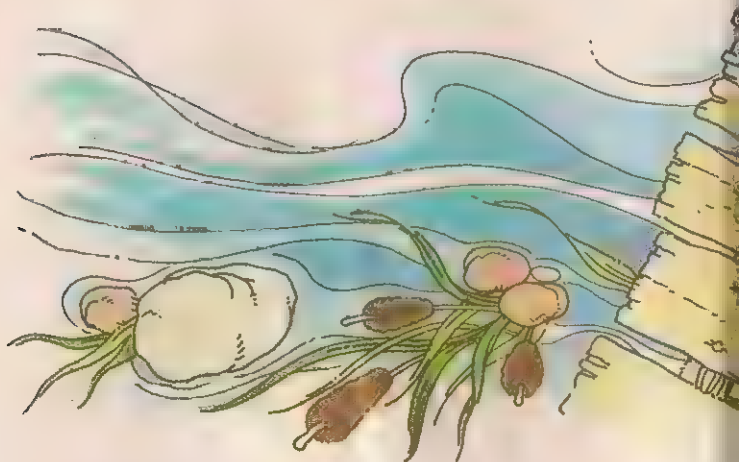
Out popped the troll's ugly head.  
He was so ugly that the second  
billy goat Gruff nearly fell down  
with fright.

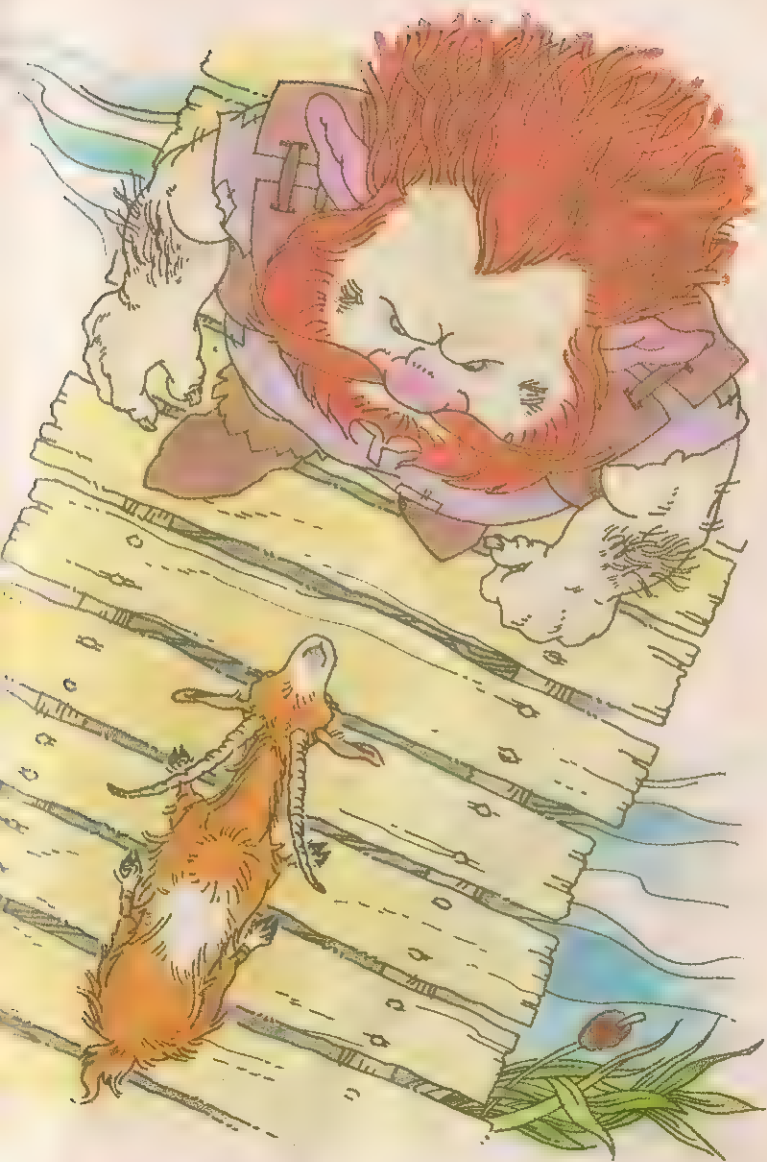
“Who’s that trip-trapping over my  
bridge?” roared the troll.



The second billy goat Gruff spoke in a rather soft voice. "It's only me, the second billy goat Gruff," he said. "I'm going to the meadow to make myself fat."

"Then I'm coming to gobble you up," roared the troll.





“Oh! No! Please don’t gobble me up,” said the second billy goat Gruff, in his rather soft voice.

“I’m not very big and I’m not very fat. Wait until the third billy goat



Gruff comes along. He's very big  
and very fat."

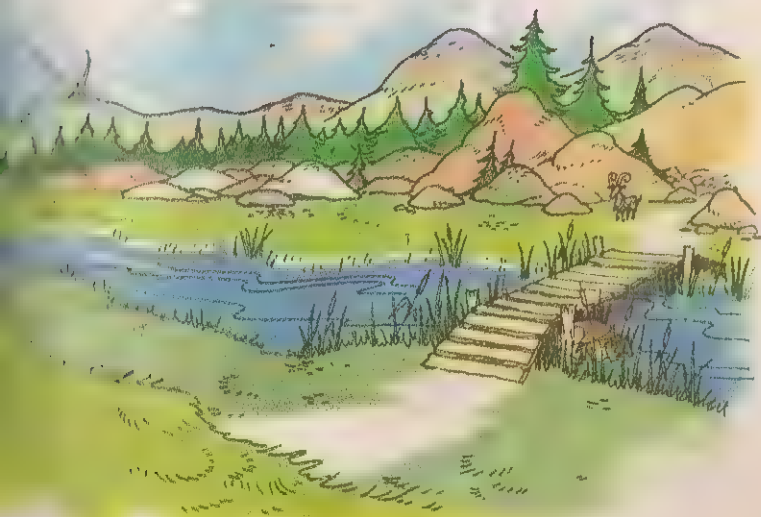


“Very well,” said the troll.



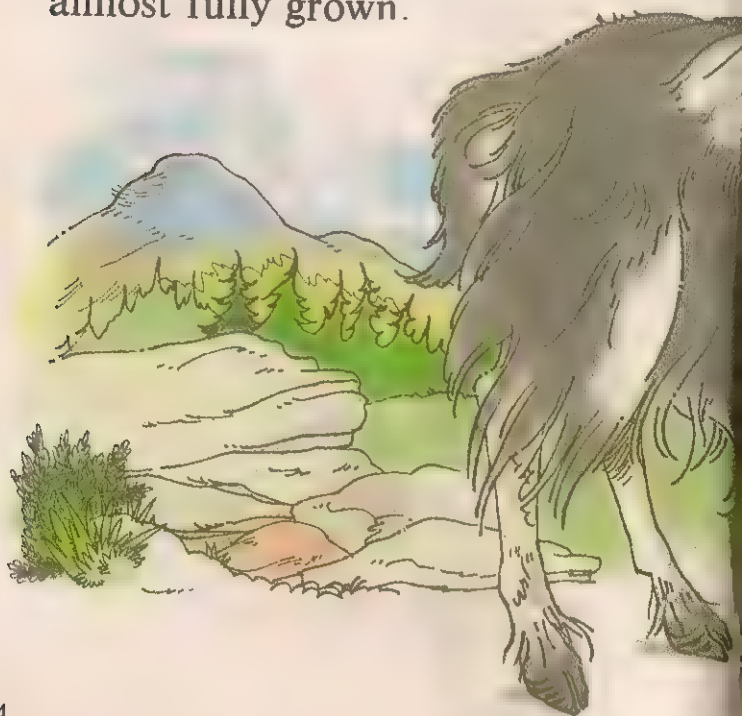
“Be off with you! I’ll wait until the third billy goat Gruff comes along.”

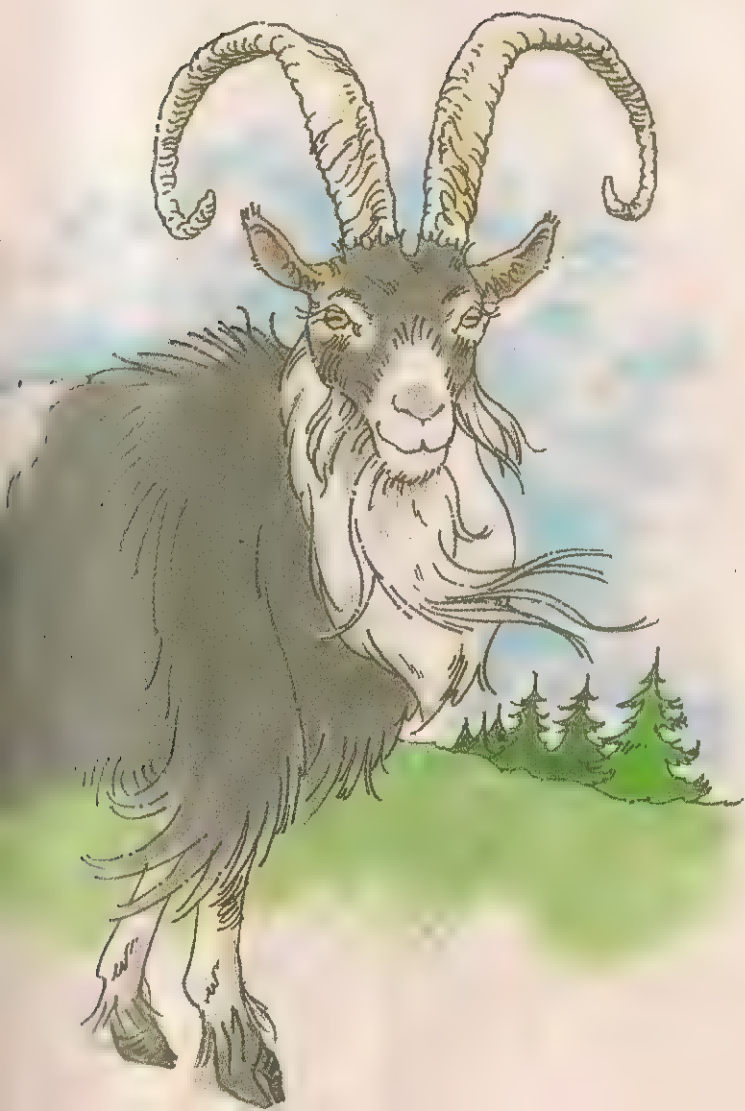
So the second billy goat Gruff crossed the bridge and skipped off into the meadow to eat the sweet grass.



Then, at last, up came the eldest  
billy goat Gruff, to try to cross the  
bridge.

He was a very big billy goat. His  
beard was long and his horns were  
almost fully grown.







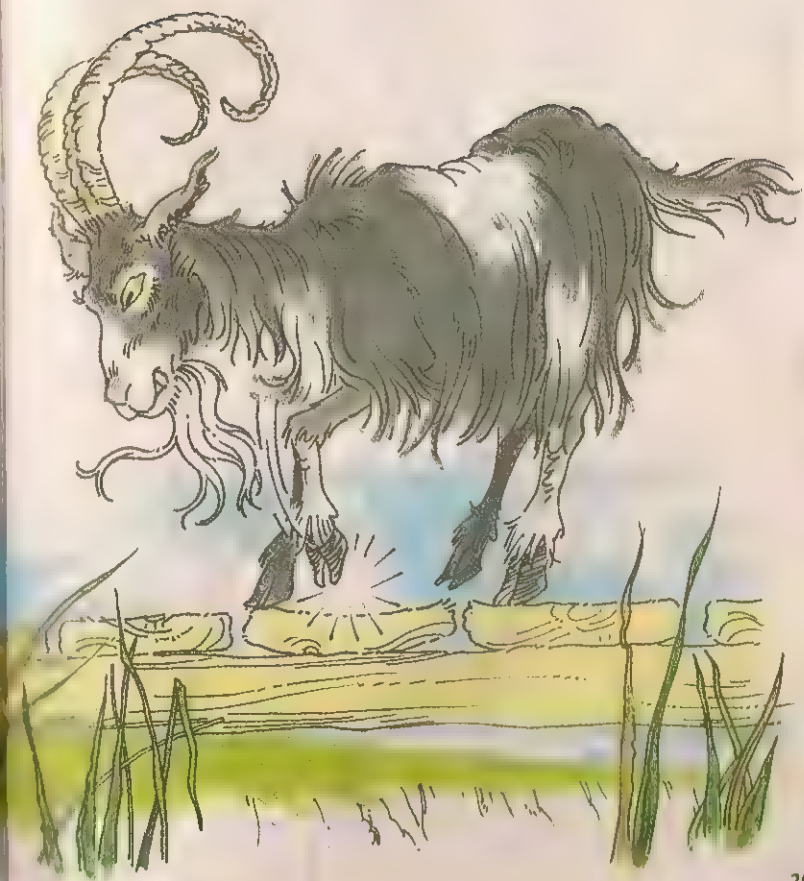
TRIP, TRAP, TRIP, TRAP,  
BANG, BANG, BANG, BANG,  
went the hooves of the eldest billy  
goat Gruff on the wooden bridge.



Out popped the troll's ugly head.  
He was so ugly that the eldest billy  
goat Gruff nearly fell down with  
fright. But he did not show it. He  
only stamped his hooves harder —

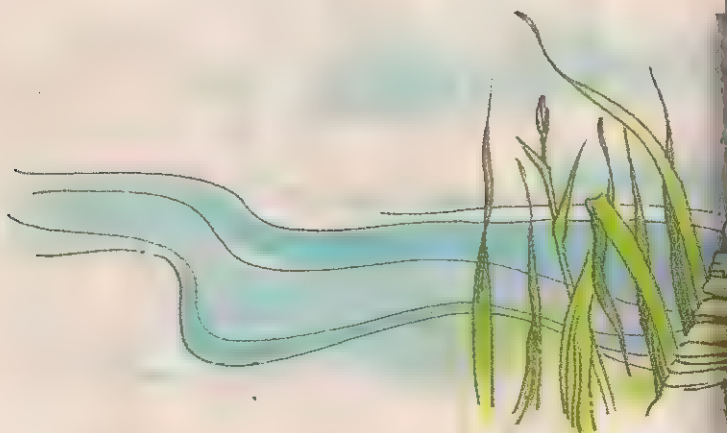


TRIP, TRAP, TRIP, TRAP,  
BANG, BANG, BANG, BANG!



“Who’s that trip-trapping over my bridge?” roared the troll.

The eldest billy goat Gruff’s voice was even louder and gruffer than the troll’s voice. “It’s me, the biggest billy goat Gruff,” he bellowed.







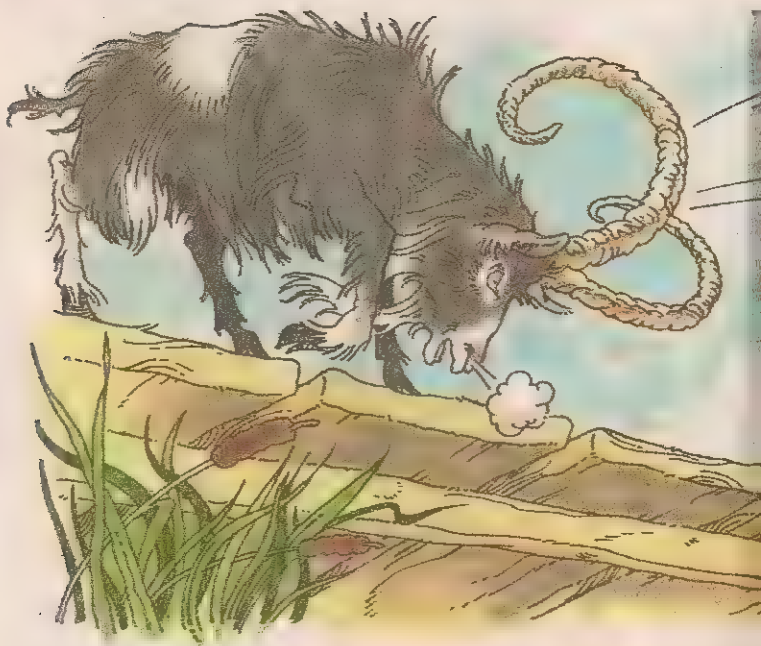
“Then I’m coming to gobble you up,” roared the troll.

“Oh no, you are not!” bellowed the eldest billy goat Gruff. “I am coming to gobble *you* up!”

And he stamped his feet even louder: TRIP, TRAP, TRIP, TRAP, BANG, BANG, BANG, BANG!



After that, the eldest billy goat  
Gruff butted the troll with his big  
horns. The troll fell off the bridge  
and into the river.







The ugly troll fell head first into the deep water. There was a mighty splash and he did not come up again.

So that was the end of the ugly troll:





From that time on, people went  
over the bridge without fear. Never  
again did the troll pop his head out  
from under the bridge to roar,  
“Who’s that trip-trapping over my  
bridge?”

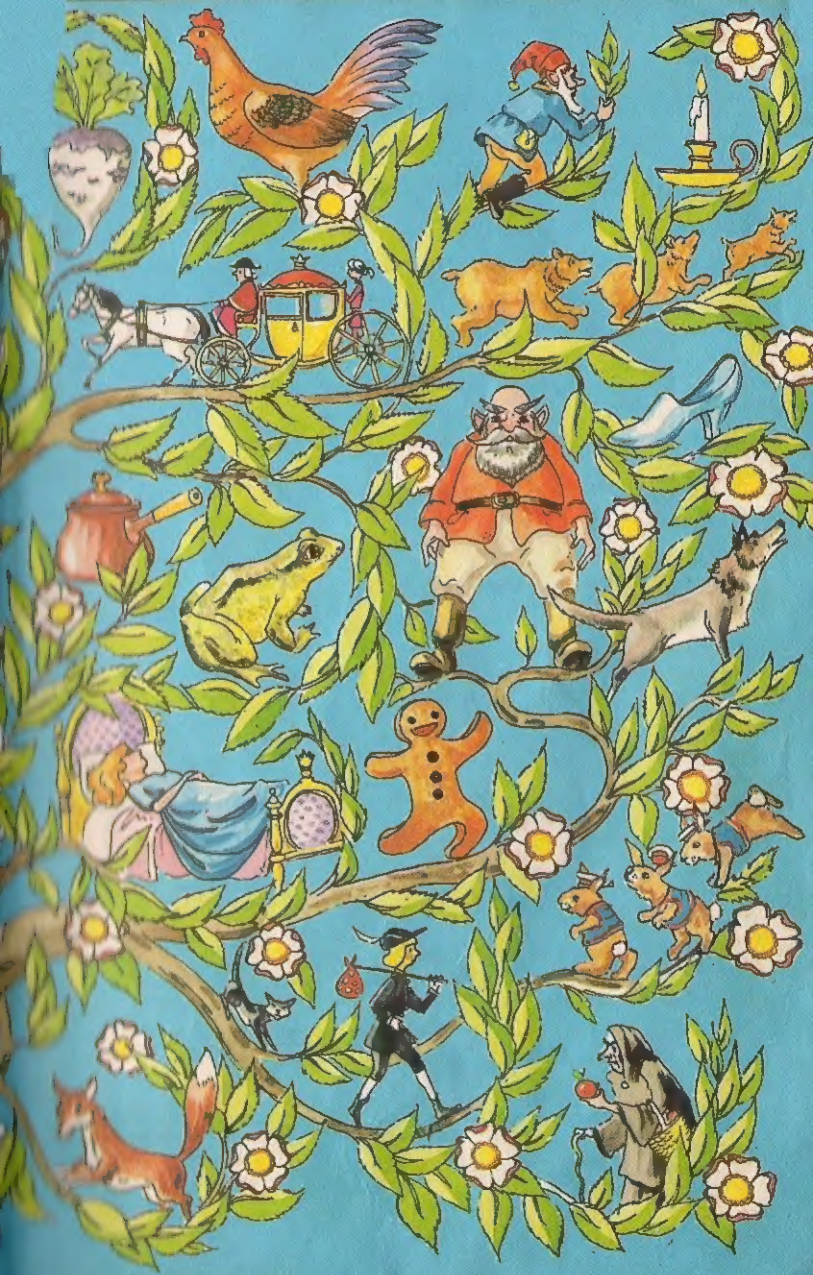




Then the three billy goats Gruff  
lived happily in the meadow on the  
hillside. They ate the sweet grass  
and they really did get fat.







List of titles in the Ladybird Series 606D (Well Loved Tales)  
Graded in order of reading difficulty.

*Grade 1*

*The Elves and the Shoemaker*  
*The Three Little Pigs*  
*The Gingerbread Boy*  
*The Little Red Hen*  
*The Princess and the Pea*  
*The Sly Fox and the Little Red Hen*  
*The Three Billy Goats Gruff*  
*Chicken Licken*  
*The Enormous Turnip*  
*Goldilocks and the Three Bears*  
*The Magic Porridge Pot*  
*The Big Pancake*  
*The Ugly Duckling*  
*The Emperor's New Clothes*  
*Thumbelina*  
*Town Mouse and Country Mouse*  
*The Tinder Box*  
*The Twelve Dancing Princesses*

*Grade 2*

*Sleeping Beauty*  
*Dick Whittington and his Cat*  
*Puss in Boots*  
*Rumpelstiltskin*

*Rapunzel*

*The Wolf and the Seven Little Kids*  
*Little Red Riding Hood*  
*The Musicians of Bremen*  
*Pinocchio*  
*The Golden Goose*  
*Hansel and Gretel*  
*The Goose Girl*  
*Brave Little Tailor*  
*The Emperor and the Nightingale*  
*The Pied Piper of Hamelin*

*Grade 3*

*Cinderella*  
*Jack and the Beanstalk*  
*Beauty and the Beast*  
*Snow White and Rose Red*  
*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*  
*The Princess and the Frog*  
*Tom Thumb*  
*The Little Mermaid*  
*The Sorcerer's Apprentice*  
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